

Appl. No. 10/606,544  
Preliminary Amendment  
November 11, 2003

**REMARKS**

This preliminary amendment is presented to place the application in proper form for examination. No new matter has been added. Early examination and favorable consideration of the above-identified application are earnestly solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A rubber cylinder sleeve for an offset printing press includes an inner carrier sleeve that has a circumferential and an axial direction. The carrier is expandable outwardly by an application of compressed air from the interior. The rubber cylinder sleeve also includes a single rubber layer having an inner surface disposed on the inner carrier sleeve and an outer surface for contacting the printing plate. The single rubber layer includes a plurality of compressible elements for increasing the compressibility of the single rubber layer and a plurality of filaments for increasing the stiffness of the single rubber layer. The compressible elements and the filaments are disposed at a distance from the outer surface.